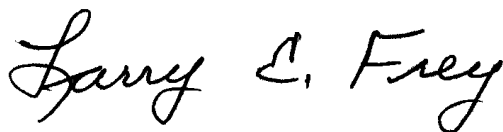


For: Oregon County FSA Offices

NAP Grazed Forage Provisions

Approved by: Larry E. Frey, State Executive Director



1 Overview

A

Background

NAP forage provisions have been changed significantly for crop year 2001. These changes will reduce the reporting burden for livestock producers to qualify under this program.

B

Purpose

This notice provides clarifications and instructs COCs to establish carrying capacities and the grazing period.

2 General Information

A

**Provisions for
1995-2000 Forage**

NAP grazed forage provisions for previous years (1995-2000) required producers to report acreage, animal units, number of grazing days, and supplemental feed in order to calculate payments in eligible NAP areas.

B

**Provisions for
2001 and Future
Years Forage**

NAP grazed forage provisions for 2001 and future years will only require producers to report acreage. Payment calculations will be simply based on the:

- documented percentage of loss (for the county or area of the county) for each type of pasture/range determined only for the year of loss
- carrying capacity established by the COC for each type of pasture/range
- normal grazing period for each type of pasture/range
- producer's report of acreage.

Disposal Date

June 1, 2002

Distribution

All Oregon County FSA Offices

3 Carrying Capacity and Normal Grazing Period

A

Definition of Carrying Capacity

Carrying capacity means the stocking rate expressed as acres per animal unit (ac/au) which is consistent with maintaining or improving vegetation or related resources, including the maintenance of carryover vegetation.

B

Normal Grazing Period

The normal grazing period is defined by the normal beginning and ending grazing dates for each type of forage and represents the time period for which the carrying capacity was based upon.

C

Examples

The following examples are provided:

1. A carrying capacity of 15 acres per animal unit with a normal grazing period of 180 days for Native Grass (NAG) rangeland would indicate that one cow can be sustained on 15 acres for 1/2 of the year without any supplemental feed.
 2. A carrying capacity of 1 acre per animal unit with a normal grazing period of 180 days for improved (irrigated) mixed forage (IGS) would indicate that one cow can be sustained on 1 acre for the six month grazing period without any supplemental feed.
-

D

Pasture/Range Types

For each applicable type of pasture/range that is grazed in the county, a carrying capacity and normal grazing period must be established by the COC. COCs may establish different carrying capacities for subgroups of the same type of pasture/range in the grass crop in Exhibit 7 of 1-NAP (Rev. 1), as necessary, based on the following reasons:

- geographical location
- geological or topographical boundaries
- elevation
- soil type
- any other documentable differentiation.

Note: Grazed forage in Oregon is considered to be full season forage. There will not be a cool and warm season designation.

Continued on the next page

3 Carrying Capacity and Normal Grazing Period (Continued)

D

Pasture/Range Types, Continued

Set carrying capacities for aftermath grazing if it is a normal practice in your county. We do not have answers from the National Office on aftermath grazing but we need to prepare for the possibility that aftermath grazing will be considered a separate crop from the hay or grain crops harvested prior to the aftermath.

E

Guidelines

COCs should use the following guidelines when establishing carrying capacities and the normal grazing period (number of days) for each pasture/range type:

- review carrying capacities which were established for the LFP
- ensure there is consistency between similar pasture/range types in adjacent counties. There should not be significant differences
- consult with industry representatives and other agencies such as the Extension Service and NRCS, as necessary.

F

COC Report/ DD Concurrence

Complete Exhibit 1 of this notice by August 6, 2001 for each county and submit by e-mail to Jerry.Griffith@or.usda.gov. A copy of the exhibit will be e-mailed to all counties for reporting purposes. For each county:

- indicate the beginning date of the grazing year
- determine for each pay crop/pay type:
 - description of the subgroup (see par. 3D)
 - carrying capacity
 - normal grazing period
 - irrigation practice (irrigated/nonirrigated)
 - generally recognized pasture and range maintenance practices use to achieve and maintain each established carrying capacity. (Examples: annual fertilization; weed control; interseeding; none.)
- document the determination in the COC minutes and record DD concurrence.

Note: DD concurrence is required to ensure that proper guidelines were followed and the carrying capacities are **comparable** to adjacent counties.

[illegible]

F - K: For each pasture/range type, enter the carrying capacity, the beginning and ending grazing period for which the carrying capacity was based on, the number of days in the grazing period, irrigation practices, and any special range management practices.